

Part 1--Pending Claims in Clean Form

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9. (Amended Once) An introducing member for inserting the urine draining apparatus defined in claim 13 into the bladder, wherein:

the introducing member has a length sufficient to extend from the exterior opening of the urinary canal through the urinary canal;

5 the introducing member has a transverse dimension to fit within the urinary canal from the exterior opening of the urinary canal to the bladder neck; and

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the introducing member defines a cavity extending entirely along the length of the introducing member, the cavity having transverse dimension to receive the body of the urine draining apparatus therein when the body is temporally straightened.

3 10. (Amended Once) An introducing member for inserting the urine draining apparatus defined in claim 13 into the bladder, wherein:

the introducing member is elongated has a length sufficient to extend from the exterior opening of the urinary canal through the urinary canal;

5 the introducing member comprises a flexible guide having an external dimension to fit within the inner space of the body; and

the flexible guide has sufficient rigidity to temporarily straighten the body upon positioning the flexible guide within the inner space of the body and to insert the body and the flexible guide while within the inner space from the exterior opening of the urinary canal through the urinary canal and to introduce the urine draining apparatus into the bladder.

10 13. (New) Apparatus for draining urine from a bladder through a bladder neck and into a urethra and past an obstruction to the urethra and through a urinary canal to an exterior opening of the urinary canal in a human being, comprising:

5 an elongated body which normally forms into a curved shape having a spring-like characteristic which permits the body to be temporarily straightened under external force, the body defining an inner space which extends along the elongated body between a first end and a second end, the body also defining at least one opening from an exterior of the body into the inner space;

10 a first end piece connected at the first end of the body across the inner space of the body, the first end piece having a curved exterior end configuration to facilitate insertion of the straightened body from the exterior opening of the urinary canal and through the urethra and bladder neck and into the bladder;

15 the spring-like characteristic of the body re-forming the body from a straightened configuration into the normal curved shape in the bladder after insertion of the body into the bladder;

the spring like characteristic and the normal curved shape of the body restricting unintentional movement of the body through the bladder neck and into the urinary canal;

20 a second end piece connected at the second end of the body across the inner space of the body, the second end piece having a pliability characteristic to facilitate movement of the second end piece from within the bladder through the bladder neck and into the urethra and to straighten the second end of the body upon movement of the second end of the body through the bladder neck and into the urethra; and

25 a thread having a sufficient length to extend from the second end piece through the urinary canal when the body is in the normally curved shape in the bladder, the thread connected at one end to the second end piece to direct the second end piece from the bladder through the bladder neck and into the urethra and to straighten and move the second end of the body from the bladder into the

bladder neck and urethra in response to a pulling force applied to the other end of the thread at a location exterior of the exterior opening of the urinary canal;

the pulling force moving the second end piece and the second end of
35 the body past the obstruction in the urethra to establish a flow path for urine from the bladder through the inner space and into the urethra and the urinary canal;
and

the spring-like characteristic of the body withdrawing the second end
of the body and the second end piece from the urethra and past the bladder neck
40 and re-forming the normal curved shape of the body in the bladder upon releasing the pulling force on the thread.

4 14. (New) Apparatus as defined in claim 13, wherein:

a marker attached to the thread at a predetermined location between
the ends of the thread to indicate the extent to which the pulling force should move
the thread out of the urinary canal relative to the exterior opening of the urinary
canal to pass urine from the bladder through the inner space and into the urinary
canal.

5 15. (New) Apparatus as defined in claim 14, wherein:

the predetermined location of the marker causing the marker to
withdraw into the urinary canal upon the body re-forming into the normal curved
shape within the bladder.

6 16. (New) Apparatus as defined in claim 13, wherein:

the pliability characteristic of the second end piece defines a
relatively greater elasticity compared to the body to facilitate movement of the
second end piece into the bladder neck.

7 17. (New) Apparatus as defined in claim 16, wherein:

the second end piece includes a curved end configuration.

8 18. (New) Apparatus as defined in claim 17, wherein:

the second end piece includes at least one opening extending from the inner space through the second end piece to pass urine from the inner space through the second end piece into the urinary canal.

9 19. (New) Apparatus as defined in claim 13, wherein:

the second end piece includes a curved end configuration to facilitate movement of the second end piece from within the bladder through the bladder neck.

10 20. (New) Apparatus as defined in claim 19, wherein:
the curved end configuration of the second end piece is rounded.

11 21. (New) Apparatus as defined in claim 20, wherein:

the second end piece includes at least one opening extending from the inner space through the second end piece to pass urine from the inner space through the second end piece into the urinary canal.

12 22. (New) Apparatus as defined in claim 19, wherein:

the second end piece includes at least one opening extending from the inner space through the second end piece to pass urine from the inner space through the second end piece into the urinary canal.

13 23. (New) Apparatus as defined in claim 13, wherein:

the first end piece defines a through opening extending from the exterior of the first end piece through the first end piece and into the inner space to pass urine from the bladder into the inner space.

14 24. (New) Apparatus as defined in claim 23, wherein:

the through opening extends through the curved exterior end configuration.

15 25. (New) Apparatus as defined in claim 23, wherein:

the curved exterior end configuration of the first end piece includes a generally spherically shaped portion.

16 26. (New) Apparatus as defined in claim 13, wherein:

the first end piece has a maximum transverse dimension greater than a maximum transverse dimension of the body.

11 27. (New) Apparatus as defined in claim 16, wherein the first end piece and the body each have a generally circular transverse cross-sectional configuration; and

5 the maximum cross-sectional diameter of the first end piece is greater than the maximum diameter of the body. 1

18 28. (New) Apparatus as defined in claim 13, wherein: the body comprises a tube defining the inner space.

19 29. (New) Apparatus as defined in claim 18, wherein: the body defines a plurality of openings formed through the tube to the inner space at a plurality of spaced apart locations along the length of the body to pass urine between the exterior of the body and the inner space.

20 30. (New) Apparatus as defined in claim 13, wherein: the body defines a plurality of openings extending from the exterior of the body to the inner space to pass urine between the exterior of the body and the inner space.

21 31. (New) Apparatus as defined in claim 13, wherein: the body comprises flexible material which inherently creates the spring-like characteristic.

22 32. (New) Apparatus as defined in claim 13, wherein: the thread has sufficient length to extend the other end of the thread beyond the exterior opening of the urinary canal, and further comprising:

5 a stop attached to the other end of the thread at a position which remains outside of the exterior opening of the urinary canal when the body reforms into the normal curved shape, the stop preventing the other end of the thread from sliding into the urinary canal.

23 33. (New) Apparatus as defined in claim 13, wherein:

the thread has sufficient length to extend the other end of the thread beyond the exterior opening of the urinary canal, and further comprising:

- a handle attached to the other end of the thread at the position which
- 5 remains outside of the exterior opening of the urinary canal when the body re-forms into the normal curved shape, the handle facilitating gripping the other end of the thread to apply the pulling force to the thread.

24/34. (New) Apparatus as defined in claim 13, wherein:
the normal curved shape of the elongated body is coiled.

25/35. (New) Apparatus as defined in claim 34, wherein:
the normal curved shape of the elongated body is coiled in a spiral;

and

- the spring-like characteristic of the body positions the second end
- 5 piece generally within an interior coil of the spiral when the body re-forms into the normal curved shape within the bladder.